Terrorist.

REQUESTER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:

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462 NORTH 20th Street
San Jose, California 95112

CASE NUMBER: 8202616 DATE OF FEE LETTER: May 24, 1983

AMOUNT OF MONEY DUE: $ 29- NO. DOCUMENTS RELEASED: 37

PHONE NUMBER: 632-0483

CASE OFFICER: Cindy R Miller

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

BRIEFING PAPER

WHO INFANT FORMULA CODE

Background

The World Health Organization is developing a code of marketing practices for infant formula, and this will be adopted by the World Health Assembly in May 1981. The marketing issue (aside from the code) is highly controversial. Health officials in many nations believe that manufacturers of infant formula--through advertising, free samples, and direct contacts with pregnant women and mothers--induce mothers to cease breastfeeding and use formula, and that the result--especially in developing countries--is an expensive form of infant feeding that is often incorrectly handled and can lead to malnutrition and even death in infants. This concern has been taken up by many church groups in the U.S. and Canada (the State Department receives a great volume of mail on this), and has led to an effort to boycott sales of the Nestle's Corporation, a Swiss industry which is the world's largest exporter of infant formula. There are three U.S. companies; estimates at the US share of the Third World market for formula range from 15 - 25 percent. The U.S. industry response is that its marketing practices are not geared to sway mothers away from breastfeeding but to competition against each other's products, and that none of the charges of negative health results from their marketing efforts has been proven. It is the view of the U.S. Surgeon General and the U.S. health establishment that breastfeeding is by far the best form of infant nutrition and that infant formula marketing practices should not operate to deter mothers from breastfeeding.

The basic issue surrounding the WHO code is whether it should be in the form of recommendations to member states or binding regulations. This issue is important to us basically because the code is being addressed not simply to developing countries but to all nations. Although we are concerned about the health ramifications of the issue, the U.S. position is that we could not accept a binding code, which would infringe on national sovereignty and run counter to the practice of code development throughout the international community. We believe the code should be in the form of recommendations so that each country may decide which of its provisions to implement through legislation or policy determination, and which are inappropriate in the context of its national legal, constitutional, and social circumstances.

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EA-11 IO-13 ADP-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-11 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-
NSCE-00 M-03 OC-06 PRS-01 RSC-01 SS-15 USIE-00
USSS-00 SY-10 FAA-00 PA-03 RSR-01 SSO-00 /124 W
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R -;1140Z JUL 73
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3372
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
USINT CAIRO
USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 8722

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS XF
SUBJECT: JAL HIJACKING

REF: BEIRUT 8590 AND KUWAIT 2646

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY Quinlan DATE 5-12-97
Classified Confidential
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RELEASE DENIED [X] IN PART
or FOI EXEMPTIONS B1 1.3(a)(3)(5)

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3. CPOPUBLIC DOMAIN. FEDAYEEN DISCLAIM RESPONSIBILITY FOR HIJACKING. PRIOR TO THE AIRLINER'S DESTRUCTION PRO-FEDAYEEN DAILY AL MUHARRIR (JULY 24) REPORTED VARIOUS PALESTINIAN ORGANIZATIONS STATED ADVENTURISTS WERE EXPLOITING NAME OF PALESTINE REVOLUTION FOR OWN ENDS. JULY 25 ARTICLE IN SAME PAPER PRINTED WAFA REPORT OF LENGTHY CLAP (PALESTINE RESISTANCE COMMAND) MEETING, WHICH CONCLUDED WITH STATEMENT THAT: (A) THERE IS NO ORGANIZATION NAMED "SONS OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES" CONNECTED WITH RESISTANCE MOVEMENT; (B) HIJACKING DETRIMENTAL TO REPUTATION OF PALESTINE REVOLUTION (C) HOLDING SO MANY HOSTAGES FOR SO LONG CONFLICTS WITH THE HUMANE NATURE OF THE REVOLUTION; (D) ARMED STRUGGLE IN "OCCUPIED TERRITORIES" HAS BEEN GAINING MOMENTUM AND HIJACKING DIVERTS WORLD ATTENTION FROM THAT STRUGGLE, AND (E) WILL MAKE STUDY OF HIJACKING IMPLICATIONS AND MOTIVES.

4. PRO-FEDAYEEN PUBLIC REACTION QUITE IN CONTRAST TO RESPONSE TO KHARTOUM KILLINGS AND INDICATES EXTREME EMBARRASSMENT OF MAJOR FEDAYEEN ORGANIZATIONS.
BUFFUM

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